Enfield Recreation Committee

April 18, 2023

Whitney Hall

Members Present - Emily Curtis, Matt Young, Jamie Ibey, Amy Stewart, Kevin Marker

The meeting was called to order by Emily at 6:33 PM.

The first order of business was to reorganize the board. Keli Green has stepped down from the committee. Emily motioned to nominate Amy Stewart as the secretary. The motion was seconded. All were in favor. Emily nominated Matt Young to serve as the chair. The motion was seconded. All were in favor. Matt nominated Emily Curtis to serve as vice chair. The motion was seconded. All were in favor. Kevin will update the positions on the town website.

Recreation Director Update - Kevin updated us on the Enfield Rec Summer Camp. Registration opened on April 14. Camp is sold out except for 5 spots. Enfield residents were allowed to register first and the camp is mostly made up of Enfield kids. Non-residents registration will open on Friday, April 21. Anyone who does not get a spot can put their name on the wait list. Matt asked if there was any negative feedback about opening to only Enfield residents first. There were a few people who had questions about registering non-resident children, but no exceptions were made, even for non-resident children who attend EVS. Children have to be 5 at the start of camp to be enrolled.

Matt asked about staffing. Ryan Limero will be the camp director. There is a possibility of a former counselor being the assistant director. A town staff person will be reaching out to former counselors to try to get them to work at camp again this summer. Matt asked if any of the staff will be first aid trained. Kevin would like that to happen and for at least one counselor to be lifeguard certified. Matt could help arrange training if necessary. Emily said that the emergency services could also help set up BLS (basic life support) training.

The Farmer’s Market starts in three weeks. There are 10-15 vendors already signed up. Kevin is looking for musicians. They would be paid $75 per market.

The recreation committee was asked their opinion on what the price for renting town facilities (Community Building, Huse Park Pavillion, and Lakeside Pavillion) should be. The town would like the rentals to be affordable enough for Enfield residents to rent. Rentals can be chunked in 5 hour increments (7 AM - noon, noon - 5, 5-10) or for the whole day. Rentals will have to follow all town ordinances (such as noise, etc). Parks are closed at dark, so the rental would be based on sunrise and sunset times. It was proposed that each slot of the time for the community building be $75. Jamie asked what the breakdown of the cost would be. $50 would go to the maintenance and building usage; $25 would go into a fund for capital improvements. The current rental fee for Enfield residents is $100 for the whole day, $50 for a 5 hour time block. There is a $150 security deposit. Non-profit groups get a free or reduced rate. Kevin said that the building is used every day. It is tough on the weekends to have a town employee check that the renters are completing all the things that they need to do to get their security deposit back. Most people have had the security deposit returned. Clean up must be completed by the end of the time block. There is a checklist and binder that renters are given to make sure they have done all that needs to be done when the rental is over.

The proposed rental fee for the Lakeside Pavilion is $200 for the whole day, $75 per 5 hour time block. The facility is the only item that the fee covers. Parking is not included. State parks currently charge $200 for renting state park pavilions. The proposed fee for the Huse Park Pavilion rental is $150. The town would not really be making money off the rentals, but the purpose of the rental would be so that people could have their events kept private. Matt asked if the town would have the executive decision making as to who could rent the pavilion and Kevin said that all rentals would go exclusively through the town in the same manner that the community building is being rented now. There will be signs at each facility where a poster can be displayed stating who is renting the facility at what time. The police department will help to enforce the rentals if there is a conflict about the privacy of the rental. This proposal will go in front of the selectboard so that it can be made an enforceable ordinance. Kevin is writing the rental agreements. Emily asked if the rules will be the same at all three locations. When people make a request to rent, they will have to acknowledge that they read the rules.

Emily mentioned that it would take a lot of rentals for a $25 portion of the rental fee to accrue to an amount that would be helpful in major repairs or replacements. Kevin said that the fund would just help to fund minor repairs or a small part of a major project. Ed and Alisa have operational budget authority and would be able to authorize using the fund for small repairs. Kevin will take our input on the proposed rental fees to Ed.

Matt asked what was happening with bingo. It is currently at LaSallette but the plan is for it to move to a building on the grounds of Pellerin Auto.

Emily and Kevin talked about new signage for park rules. All park rules will follow town ordinances. One question that is being raised is about dogs in the parks. A question was raised about firearms in the park. Under New Hampshire state law, they are permitted. Emily suggested that maybe a representative from the police department should come to a meeting to talk about laws regarding recreational spaces. There are also laws in regard to having alcohol in town owned spaces.

By Laws - Kevin shared the by laws of New London and Claremont recreation departments. Ed wants the Recreation Committee to take on more of an advisory role in helping to develop and think about policy. Committee members are asked to look at the by laws from these two towns and come to the next meeting prepared to talk about ones that we might want to adopt.

Matt motioned to adjourn the meeting at 7:40. Jamie seconded the motion. All were in favor.

Our next meeting will be Tuesday, May 16 at 6:30 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Amy E. Stewart

Secretary